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A True and Impartial

A C C O U N T,

OF THE

GLORIOUS VICTORY

OF THE

Moſt VALIANT King of *SWEDEN*,

OVER THE

Czar of *Muſcovie*'s Numerous Army:

Obtain'd the 30th of *November*.

To the Admiration of Mankind.

In a Letter from a *Swediſh* Officer to his Friend in *London*.

My Dear Friend and Companion, 4 Jan. 170⅞

I Cannot but impart to you the ſtrange tho' happy Succeſs of our Army ſince our Landing in theſe cold Northern Countries. I came hither with the firſt Convoy; our Regiment accompanying his Majeſty, we came ſafe a-ſhore after a favourable Paſſage into *Livonia*, with ſome other Regiments, being in all about 12000 Men, Horſe and Foot. The next day we were drawn up by General *Welling*, for the King to take a View of the Men and their Arms. After a ſhort ſtay to recruit our ſelves, we were order'd to march toward *Wolenburgh* in our way to *Narva*. The King at his firſt Arrival iſſued out his Proclamation, to repreſent the Injuſtice of the *Czar*'s invading his Territories, and to command and invite the Gentry and others to his Aſſiſtance, as they were in Duty bound to defend their Borders, and their Prince's Rights from a Foreign Invaſion. Aſſoon as the ſecond Convoy was arriv'd we made up about 21000 Men of Cavalry and Infantry; beſides about 9000 of the Country Militia which came in to us; ſo that our whole Number amounted to near 30000 Men. The King was reſolv'd to hazard a Battle againſt the *Czar*'s Army, which we underſtood to exceed 120000 Men. After ſome days March we were informed by a Meſſenger that the Governour of *Narva* had ſent, and had eſcaped the *Muſcovite* Guards, That the City had been often aſſaulted during the ſpace of 10 Weeks, with loſs on both ſides; That the Garriſon was reſolute, and the Officers reſolv'd to defend it to the laſt. That they had yet Ammunition for the Belly, and the Protection of the Place; and that the Expectation of a ſpeedy Relief, made them the more Courageous. This good News caus'd us to march with Speed and Alacrity, as to a certain Victory. But our King ſent before ſome Spies to diſcover the Number of the Enemy, their Strength, Poſt, and Fortifications. After ſome time they return'd to us within a Day and a halfs March of *Narva*, and gave our Prince a full Account of the *Muſcovite* Army.

This City lies near the Mouth of the River *Prutz*, that empties it ſelf into the *Finnick* Gulf or Bay. On the other ſide ſtands *Ivonogrod*, both pretty well fortified againſt ſuch an Enemy as is the *Muſcovite*. The Country adjoining is level, but at ſome diſtance are Hills and Rocks, and certain thick Woods, where are two narrow Paſſages or *Defiles*, into the Plain of *Narva*.

When the *Czar*, who was with his Army in Perſon, underſtood of our Coming, he ſent two diſtinct Parties, the one of 5000, and the other of about 12000 Men, to guard and defend theſe two difficult Places; the one called the Paſs of *Salamogi*, the other of *Bahueora*, that borrow their Names from two Neighbouring Villages. The King at our Arrival underſtood from the Country how difficult 'twould be for him to force his Way through theſe Places ſo well guarded: He ask'd therefore from the Country People, if there were not any other Paſſage towards *Narva*. After a diligent Enquiry he underſtood, that about 8 Leagues off, near the Lake out of which the River proceeds, and thro' which it runs, there was an eaſie Paſſage for both Horſe and Foot. We were immediately order'd to march with all poſſible ſpeed, and in three days time we were got beyond the Hills into the plain Country or Valley without Oppoſition, where the City ſtands. Our Arrival was ſo ſudden and unexpected, that the Enemy was altogether unprovided to maintain their Ground. On the 28th of *November*, about 6 a Clock in the Morning, we reach'd them, and their Horſes were grazing in the adjoining Field, whilſt they lay Sleeping ſecure in their Tents, and had no advanc'd Guards towards that part of the

Country

Country where we enter'd the Valley, but only towards the Hills where they look'd for us: So that we had no difficulty to rout them. After a small resistance wherein we lost not above 20 Men, we became Masters of their Camp, and Kill'd of them about 3000, the rest fled as fast as their heels could carry them, towards their main Body that lay Intrench'd, having the River on one side and on the other a Morass about 2 Leagues from *Narva*. The *Czar* was in Person in his Camp having left behind him 6000 Men to continue the Seige; when he understood by them that fled, that the *Swedes* were coming, he provided for an Assault, dispos'd of his Canon in the most convenient Places, incourag'd his Men, and acted the part of a Prudent General. But the King of *Sweden* after this first Victory, which struck a Terror into the Minds of the rest, to whom they Related the Fiercenes, Valour, Strength and Numbers of the Enemies, to excuse their own Cowardise and Flight, made no delay: But posted himself in the forsaken Camp and Tents of his Enemies, the remaining Part of that Day and Night, and order'd his Men the next Day which was the 29th, to humble themselves before God, and attend the publick Prayers that were made for Success: He Commanded after the Devotions were ended, that every Man should Refresh himself with all necessary Provisions, and be ready with sufficient Ammunition, and their Armes fix'd to March at a Minutes warning, with all the Secrese imaginable.

The 30 of *November* about break of Day, the Signal was given to move. General *Welling* Commanded the Right-wing, the King the Left, and the main Body was committed to the Care and Direction of the other Superior Officers. We began our Attack about 9 a Clock, with an undaunted Resolution: And tho' the Enemy was above 100000 strong and we not above 30000 of Horse and Foot, we Attempted to break into them thro' all the Fire of their great Guns and small Shot. The first Brigade that was led by Major General *Rehbing* was miserably Shatter'd and himself Kill'd at the Assault; but after a Couragious Resistance of about four Hours time, in which our Men never regarded the Danger of Death: But pressing on with the greatest Fury we gain'd their Trenches, and having made way for our Horse to enter in, the Dispute lasted not above a quarter of an Hour longer; for it was nothing but a disorderly Flight in the *Muscovites* Army and a terrible Execution. The *Czar* to give him his due, endeavour'd to rally his Men and maintain the Fight, but the Confusion and Cry was so great after our Entrance, that they could not be perswaded to stand, but immediately fled to the Bridge, over which they made all the Expedition possible, the *Czar* narrowly escap'd taking. When they were about 60000 over, with the Weight of the Carriages, or as God would have it, the Bridge broke, which made many to cast themselves headlong into the Water; and the Tide being in, several hundreds were Drown'd and could not recover the opposite Bank: This so discourag'd the rest of the *Muscovite* Army, who were pursu'd by the *Swedes*, that they all laid down their Arms, and submitted to Quarter. About 18000 were in this Body, amongst them the Duke *de Croy*, General *Weyde*, Lieutenant General *Hallard*, Collonels *Lange*, *Blasberg* and *Lefort*, and others who were made Prisoners, but the rest were disarm'd and Commanded to go home to their Habitations. We have taken all their Bag and Baggage, about 70 Peices of Canon, 64 Mortars, 64000 Crowns, all their Ammunition: So that the Victory is as Compleat as we could desire it. The King gave the Plunder to his Soldiers to Incourage them; but having chosen a Select Party, he left the rest behind to secure the Camp and relieve *Narva*, thro' which he past, staying only to refresh himself about an Hour; and pursued the Relicks of the *Muscovite* Army while they were in that Consternation before they could recover themselves and rally. He order'd the remainder of his own Army to follow him; the *Muscovites* are fled towards the Province of *Plescow*, and we have a Discourse amongst us as if we were to Besiege the City of *Plescow*. During all the Motion our King Acted the part of an Experienced and Valiant Commander to the Admiration of both Friends and Foes, and appear'd at the Head of his Party, with an undaunted Courage. The Bullets came so near him, that his Horse's Head was shot off, and a Soldier kill'd at his side, and he seem'd not to be concern'd at it. We must confess that considering the unequal Numbers of the Armies, we owe this Victory to the immediate Hand of God, who has favour'd the Justice of our Cause in a remarkable Manner. So that Monsieur *Guiscard* the *French* Embassador, who was an Eye Witness of it, declar'd that it was worthy of the astonishment of all Mankind, that such a handful of Men should overcome a powerful Army, so numerous and so well Intrench'd with so little loss; for besides these Officers *Rehbing*, *Rehbinder*, Captain *Las*, *Le Bon*, *Bathery*, &c. we have not lost fully 3000 Men kill'd or desperately Wounded. Assoon as the remainder of the *Muscovite* Army had submitted, we were Commanded to fall upon our Knees, and to give the Glory of our Victory to God, whose Assistance was Visible and Remarkable, for the Wind blew fresh in our Backs during the Assault, and by consequence drove all the Smoak of our Guns and of the Enemies in their Faces, so that they could not see our Strength nor Numbers, till they felt our Shot and our Swords. We are now Marching towards *Plescow*, and when I shall have any thing more worthy of your knowledge, I shall not fail to Write you; I am in all Sincerity

Tours, &c.

C. K.

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